

A class function on the mapping class group of an orientable surface and the Meyer cocycle

Masatoshi Sato

Abstract

In this paper we define a \mathbf{QP}^1 -valued class function on the mapping class group $\mathcal{M}_{g,2}$ of a surface $\Sigma_{g,2}$ of genus g with two boundary components. Let E be a $\Sigma_{g,2}$ bundle over a pair of pants P . Gluing to E the product of an annulus and P along the boundaries of each fiber, we obtain a closed surface bundle over P . We have another closed surface bundle by gluing to E the product of P and two disks.

The sign of our class function cobounds the 2-cocycle on $\mathcal{M}_{g,2}$ defined by the difference of the signature of these two surface bundles over P .

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0 Introduction

Let $\Sigma_{g,r}$ be a compact oriented surface of genus g with r boundary components. The mapping class group $\mathcal{M}_{g,r}$ is $\pi_0 \text{Diff}_+(\Sigma_{g,r}, \partial\Sigma_{g,r})$ where $\text{Diff}_+(\Sigma_{g,r}, \partial\Sigma_{g,r})$ is the group of orientation preserving diffeomorphisms of $\Sigma_{g,r}$ which restrict to the identity on the boundary $\partial\Sigma_{g,r}$. We simply denote $\Sigma_g := \Sigma_{g,0}$ and $\mathcal{M}_g := \mathcal{M}_{g,0}$. Harer[4] proved that

$$H^2(\mathcal{M}_{g,r}; \mathbf{Z}) \cong \mathbf{Z} \quad g \geq 3, \quad r \geq 0,$$

see also Korkmaz, Stipsicz[8]. Meyer[9] defined a cocycle $\tau_g \in Z^2(\mathcal{M}_g; \mathbf{Z})$ ($g \geq 0$) called the Meyer cocycle

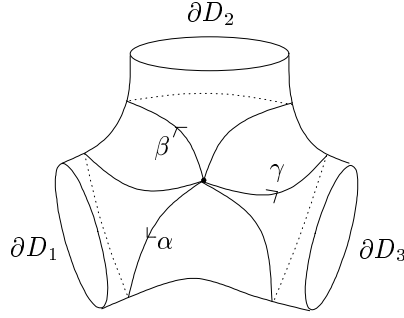


Figure 1:

which represents four times generator of the second cohomology class when $g \geq 3$. Let $P := S^2 - \coprod_{i=1}^3 \text{Int } D_i$ where $D_i \subset S^2$ is a disk, $\text{Int } D_i$ its interior in S^2 , and $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \pi_1(P)$ be the homotopy classes as shown in Figure 1. We consider a $\Sigma_{g,r}$ bundle $E_{g,r}^{\varphi, \psi}$ on the pair of pants P which has monodromies $\varphi, \psi, (\psi\varphi)^{-1} \in \mathcal{M}_{g,r}$ along $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \pi_1(P)$. The diffeomorphism type of $E_{g,r}^{\varphi, \psi}$ does not depend on the choice of representatives in the mapping classes φ and ψ . The Meyer cocycle is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_g : \mathcal{M}_g \times \mathcal{M}_g &\rightarrow \mathbf{Z}, \\ (\varphi, \psi) &\mapsto \text{Sign } E_g^{\varphi, \psi} \end{aligned}$$

where $\text{Sign } E_g^{\varphi, \psi}$ is the signature of the compact 4-manifold $E_g^{\varphi, \psi}$. For $k > 0$, it is known as Novikov additivity that when two compact oriented $4k$ -manifolds are glued by an orientation reversing diffeomorphism of their boundaries, the signature of their union is the sum of their signature. When a pants decomposition of a closed 2-manifold is given, the signature of a Σ_g bundle on the 2-manifold is the sum of the signature of the σ_g bundles restricted to each pair of pants. Therefore, it is important to study the Meyer cocycle to calculate the signature of compact 4-manifolds. For $g = 1, 2$ the Meyer cocycle τ_g is a coboundary, and the cobounding function of this cocycle is calculated by several authors, for instance, Meyer[9], Atiyah[1], Kasagawa[6], Iida[5]. The Meyer cocycle is not a coboundary if genus $g \geq 3$, but the cocycle can be a coboundary when it is restricted to a certain subgroup, and calculated by Endo[2], Morifuji[10].

Let I be the unit interval $[0, 1] \subset \mathbf{R}$. By sewing a pair of disks onto the surface $\Sigma_{g,2}$ along the boundary, we have Σ_g . For $h \in \text{Diff}_+(\Sigma_{g,2}, \partial\Sigma_{g,2})$, if we extend h by the identity on the pair of disks, we have a self-

diffeomorphism of Σ_g . we denote it $h \cup id_{\coprod_{i=1}^2 D^2}$. By sewing an annulus $S^1 \times I$ onto the surface $\Sigma_{g,2}$ along the boundary, we have Σ_{g+1} . In the same way, if we extend $h \in \text{Diff}_+(\Sigma_{g,2}, \partial\Sigma_{g,2})$ by the identity on the annulus, we have a self-diffeomorphism $h \cup id_{S^1 \times I}$.

Define the induced homomorphism on the mapping class group by

$$\begin{aligned} \theta : \mathcal{M}_{g,2} &\rightarrow \mathcal{M}_g \\ [h] &\mapsto [h \cup id_{\coprod_{i=1}^2 D^2}] \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \eta : \mathcal{M}_{g,2} &\rightarrow \mathcal{M}_{g+1,0} \\ [h] &\mapsto [h \cup id_{S^1 \times I}] \end{aligned}$$

Harer[3][4] shows that θ and η induce an isomorphism on the second homology classes when genus $g \geq 5$, so that $\tilde{\tau}_g = \eta^* \tau_{g+1} - \theta^* \tau_g$ is a coboundary. Powell[11] proved that the first cohomology group $H_1(\mathcal{M}_{g,r}; \mathbf{Z})$ is trivial for $g \geq 3$ and $r \geq 0$, so by the universal coefficient theorem, it follows that the cobounding function of $\tilde{\tau}_g$ is unique.

In this paper we define a \mathbf{QP}^1 -valued class function m on the mapping class group $\mathcal{M}_{g,2}$ in an explicit way by using information of the first homology group of a mapping torus of $[h] \in \mathcal{M}_{g,2}$, and prove that the sign of the function m cobounds the cocycle $\tilde{\tau}_g = \eta^* \tau_{g+1} - \theta^* \tau_g$. Especially it turns out that the cocycle $\tilde{\tau}_g$ is coboundary for any $g \geq 0$.

In section 1, we construct a class function m , prove some properties of this function, and calculate the image of the function. In section 2, we prove that the sign of this function cobounds the difference $\tilde{\tau}_g = \eta^* \tau_{g+1} - \theta^* \tau_g$. By the definition of the Meyer cocycle τ_g , $\tilde{\tau}_g(\varphi, \psi)$ is just the difference $\text{Sign } E_{g+1}^{\eta(\varphi), \eta(\psi)} - \text{Sign } E_g^{\theta(\varphi), \theta(\psi)}$, so that we calculate the difference by using the sign of the function m . Moreover we compute the other differences of signature $\text{Sign}(E_{g,2}^{\varphi, \psi}) - \text{Sign}(E_g^{\theta(\varphi), \theta(\psi)})$ and $\text{Sign}(E_{g+1}^{\eta(\varphi), \eta(\psi)}) - \text{Sign}(E_{g,2}^{\varphi, \psi})$ by the function m .

1 Class function $m : \mathcal{M}_{g,2} \rightarrow \mathbf{QP}^1$

In this section we define the class function on the mapping class group $\mathcal{M}_{g,2}$ stated in Introduction and describe some properties of the function including the nontriviality.

For $[p : q], [r : s] \in \mathbf{QP}^1$, we define an addition in \mathbf{QP}^1 by

$$[p : q] + [r : s] = \begin{cases} [pr : ps + qr], & \text{if } [p : q] \neq [0 : 1] \text{ or } [r : s] \neq [0 : 1] \\ [0 : 1], & \text{if } [p : q] = [r : s] = [0 : 1]. \end{cases}$$

The projective line \mathbf{QP}^1 forms an additive monoid under this operation with $[1 : 0]$ the zero element.

In this section, all (co)homology groups is with \mathbf{Q} coefficients.

1.1 Construction of the class function

Before constructing the function, we prepare a fact about homology groups of compact 3-manifolds. Let Y be a compact oriented 3-manifold with boundary ∂Y and $i : \partial Y \hookrightarrow Y$ the inclusion map. Consider the commutative

diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
H^1(Y) & \xrightarrow{i^*} & H^1(\partial Y) & \xrightarrow{\delta^*} & H^2(Y, \partial Y) \\
\downarrow \cap[Y] & & \downarrow \cap[\partial Y] & & \downarrow \cap[Y] \\
H_2(Y, \partial Y) & \xrightarrow{\partial_*} & H_1(\partial Y) & \xrightarrow{i_*} & H_1(Y),
\end{array}$$

where the upper and lower rows are the exact sequences of a pair $(Y, \partial Y)$, and the vertical maps are the cap products with the fundamental classes of Y and ∂Y . By the diagram and Poincaré Duality, it follows that the image of i^* is just its own annihilator with respect to the cup product of $H^1(\partial Y)$

$$\text{Im } i^* = \text{Ann}(\text{Im } i^*).$$

In particular, we have

$$\dim \text{Ker } i_* = \dim \text{Im } i^* = \frac{1}{2} \dim H_1(\partial Y).$$

We define the mapping torus of $\varphi = [h] \in \mathcal{M}_{g,r}$ by

$$X^\varphi := \Sigma_{g,r} \times I / \sim, \quad (x, 1) \sim (h(x), 0),$$

and $\pi : X^\varphi \rightarrow I/\partial I = S^1$ by the projection $\pi([x, t]) = [t]$, where $[x, t] \in X^\varphi$ is the equivalent class of $(x, t) \in \Sigma_{g,r} \times I$, and $[t] \in I/\partial I = S^1$ the equivalent class of $t \in I$.

The diffeomorphism type of the mapping torus X^φ does not depend on the choice of the representative h . We fix the orientation on X^φ given by the product orientation on $\Sigma_{g,r} \times I$. Let $i_\varphi : \partial X^\varphi \hookrightarrow X^\varphi$ be the inclusion map. In this subsection we denote $\Sigma := \Sigma_{g,2}$, and if we fix $\varphi \in \mathcal{M}_{g,2}$, then we write simply $X := X^\varphi$ and $i := i_\varphi$. Let S_1 and S_2 be the two boundary components of Σ , and $[S_k]$ ($k = 1, 2$) the image under the inclusion homomorphism $H_1(S_k) \rightarrow H_1(\Sigma)$ of the fundamental homology class.

We consider Σ as a subspace of X by the embedding $\iota : \Sigma \hookrightarrow X$ $x \mapsto [x, 0]$. We choose points $p_1 \in S_1$, $p_2 \in S_2$, and $p \in S^1$, and orientation-preserving homeomorphisms $\iota_1 : S^1 \rightarrow S_1$ and $\iota_2 : S^1 \rightarrow S_2$. We define singular cochains $f_k : I \rightarrow (S_1 \amalg S_2) \times S^1 = \partial X$ ($k = 1, 2, 3, 4$) by

$$f_1(t) = (\iota_1(t), p), \quad f_2(t) = (\iota_2(t), p), \quad f_3(t) = (p_1, t), \quad \text{and} \quad f_4(t) = (p_2, t), \quad \text{respectively.}$$

Let $e_k \in H_1(\partial X)$ be the homology class of f_k ($k = 1, 2, 3, 4$). Then the set $\{e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4\}$ forms a basis for $H_1(\partial X)$.

Now we describe the kernel of the homomorphism $i_* : H_1(\partial X) \rightarrow H_1(X)$. Since e_1 and e_2 lie in the kernel of $(\pi|_{\partial X})_*$ and $\pi_*(e_3) = \pi_*(e_4) = [S^1] \in H_1(S^1)$, we have

$$\text{Ker } i_* \subset \text{Ker } (\pi_* i_*) = \mathbf{Q}e_1 \oplus \mathbf{Q}e_2 \oplus \mathbf{Q}(e_3 - e_4).$$

By the definition of the map f_k , $(i \circ f_k)_*[S^1] = \iota_*[S_k]$, and so $i_*(e_1 + e_2) = \iota_*([S_1] + [S_2]) \in H_1(X)$. Since $S_1 \cup S_2$ is the boundary of Σ , we have $[S_1] + [S_2] = 0 \in H_1(\Sigma)$. Hence

$$\mathbf{Q}(e_1 + e_2) \subset \text{Ker } i_*.$$

As we saw at the beginning of this subsection, $\dim \text{Ker } i_* = \frac{1}{2} \dim H_1(\partial X) = 2$. It follows that $\text{Ker } i_* = \mathbf{Q}(e_1 + e_2) \oplus \mathbf{Q}(p(e_3 - e_4) + qe_1)$ for some $p, q \in \mathbf{Q}$. Now we can define a class function.

Definition 1.1. For $\varphi \in \mathcal{M}_{g,2}$, we take $p, q \in \mathbf{Q}$ such that $\text{Ker } i_{\varphi*} = \mathbf{Q}(e_1 + e_2) \oplus \mathbf{Q}(p(e_3 - e_4) + qe_1)$.
We define $m : \mathcal{M}_{g,2} \rightarrow \mathbf{QP}^1$ by $m(\varphi) = [p : q]$.

Lemma 1.2. For $\varphi, \psi \in \mathcal{M}_{g,2}$,

$$m(\psi\varphi\psi^{-1}) = m(\varphi).$$

Proof. Define $\Psi : X^\varphi \rightarrow X^{\psi\varphi\psi^{-1}}$ by $\Psi(x, t) = (\psi(x), t)$. Then the following diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H_1(\partial X^\varphi) & \xrightarrow{i_{\varphi*}} & H_1(X^\varphi) \\ \downarrow \Psi_* & & \downarrow \Psi_* \\ H_1(\partial X^{\psi\varphi\psi^{-1}}) & \xrightarrow{i_{\psi\varphi\psi^{-1}*}} & H_1(X^{\psi\varphi\psi^{-1}}). \end{array}$$

We can see from the diagram, Ψ_* gives the natural isomorphism between $\text{Ker}(H_1(\partial X^\varphi) \rightarrow H_1(X^\varphi))$ and $\text{Ker}(H_1(\partial X^{\psi\varphi\psi^{-1}}) \rightarrow H_1(X^{\psi\varphi\psi^{-1}}))$. Hence we have $m(\psi\varphi\psi^{-1}) = m(\varphi)$. \square

1.2 Some properties and the nontriviality of the class function

By the Serre spectral sequence, we have the exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \text{Coker}(\varphi_* - 1) \xrightarrow{\iota_*} H_1(X) \xrightarrow{\pi_*} H_1(S^1) \longrightarrow 0,$$

where $\text{Coker}(\varphi_* - 1)$ is the cokernel of the homomorphism $\varphi_* - 1 : H_1(\Sigma) \rightarrow H_1(\Sigma)$.

Then we have a unique homomorphism $j_\varphi : \mathbf{Q}e_1 \oplus \mathbf{Q}e_2 \oplus \mathbf{Q}(e_3 - e_4) \rightarrow \text{Coker}(\varphi_* - 1)$ such that the diagram with exact rows

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & \mathbf{Q}e_1 \oplus \mathbf{Q}e_2 \oplus \mathbf{Q}(e_3 - e_4) & \longrightarrow & H_1(\partial X) & \xrightarrow{\pi_*} & H_1(S^1) \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow j_\varphi & & \downarrow i_* & & \parallel \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & \text{Coker}(\varphi_* - 1) & \xrightarrow{\iota_*} & H_1(X) & \xrightarrow{\pi_*} & H_1(S^1) \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

commutes. By the diagram, we have

$$\text{Ker } i_* = \text{Ker } j_\varphi, \text{ and}$$

$$j_\varphi(e_1) = -j_\varphi(e_2) = [S_1] \in \text{Coker}(\varphi_* - 1).$$

Now we introduce a cochain $\omega_l \in C^1(\mathcal{M}_{g,2}; H_1(\Sigma))$ defined in [7]. On the fiber $\Sigma = \pi^{-1}(0) \subset X$, pick a path l such that $l(0) \in S_2$ and $l(1) \in S_1$. Define ω_l by

$$\omega_l(\varphi) := \varphi(l) - l \in H_1(\Sigma).$$

Then we have

Lemma 1.3.

$$j_\varphi(e_3 - e_4) = [\omega_l(\varphi)] \in \text{Coker}(\varphi_* - 1).$$

Proof. Define a 2-chain $L : I \times I \rightarrow X$ by $L(s, t) = [l(s), t]$. Its boundary is given by $-i_*(e_3) + \varphi(l) + i_*(e_4) - l \in B_1(X)$. Hence,

$$i_*(e_3 - e_4) = \iota_*([\varphi(l) - l]) \in H_1(X)$$

Since ι_* is injective, the lemma follows. \square

From the lemma, we see the homology class $[\omega_l(\varphi)] \in \text{Coker}(\varphi_* - 1)$ is independent of the choice of the path l . If $\omega_l(\varphi) = 0$, then $j_\varphi(e_3 - e_4) = 0$.

Remark 1.4. *If there exists a path l from a point in S_2 to a point in S_1 which has no common point with the support of a representative of $\varphi \in \mathcal{M}_{g,2}$, then $m(\varphi) = [1 : 0]$. In particular, $m(\text{id}) = [1 : 0]$, the zero element of the monoid \mathbf{QP}^1 .*

At the beginning of this section, we defined the commutative monoid structure on \mathbf{QP}^1 . So integral multiples of $m(\varphi)$ are well-defined.

Proposition 1.5. *If $\varphi \in \mathcal{M}_{g,2}$ and $k \in \mathbf{Z}$, then*

$$m(\varphi^k) = km(\varphi).$$

Proof. The proposition is trivial for $k = 0$ and $k = 1$. Assume $k \geq 2$.

Let $m(\varphi) = [p : q]$. By the definition of j_φ , $pj_\varphi(e_3 - e_4) = -q[S_1] \in \text{Coker}(\varphi_* - 1)$. Hence, there exists $v \in H_1(\Sigma)$ such that

$$p[\varphi(l) - l] = -q[S_1] + (\varphi_* - 1)v \in H_1(\Sigma)$$

Apply φ^i ($i = 1, 2, \dots, k-1$) to the both sides of the equation and sum over i . Then

$$\sum_{i=1}^{k-1} p(\varphi^{i+1}(l) - \varphi^i(l)) = -\sum_{i=1}^{k-1} \{[S_1] + (\varphi_*^{i+1}(v) - \varphi_*^i(v))\},$$

that is

$$p(\varphi^k(l) - l) = -kq[S_1] + (\varphi_*^k - 1)v.$$

Hence, $m(\varphi^k) = [p : kq] = km(\varphi)$ for $k > 0$.

By applying φ^{-1} to the equation $p[\varphi(l) - l] = -q[S_1] + (\varphi_* - 1)v$, we have

$$p[\varphi^{-1}(l) - l] = q[S_1] + (\varphi_*^{-1} - 1)v \in H_1(\Sigma).$$

Hence, $m(\varphi^{-1}) = [p : -q] = -m(\varphi)$. Since $m(\varphi^{-k}) = -m(\varphi^k) = -km(\varphi)$ for $k > 0$, the proposition follows for the case $k < 0$. \square

Now we compute the image of the function m . Especially we prove that m is nontrivial.

Proposition 1.6. *For $g \geq 1$, m is surjective. For $g = 0$, $\text{Im}(m) = [1 : \mathbf{Z}]$.*

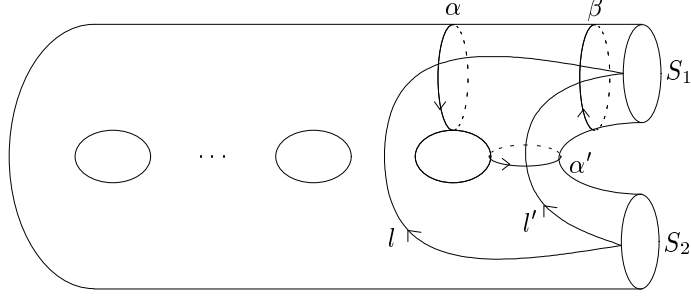


Figure 2:

Proof. Suppose $g \geq 1$. We choose oriented simple closed curves α , α' , and β and paths l and l' as shown in Figure 2. We denote the Dehn twists along a simple closed curve $C \subset \Sigma$ by t_C , and the homology class of C by $[C]$. Then $[\alpha] + [\alpha'] + [\beta] = 0 \in H_1(\Sigma)$ since they bound a 2-chain. For $p \in \mathbf{Z}$, if we denote $\varphi := t_\alpha^p t_{\alpha'} t_\beta^{-1}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} j_\varphi((p+1)(e_3 - e_4)) &= \omega_l(\varphi) + p\omega_{l'}(\varphi) \\ &= (t_\alpha^p t_{\alpha'} t_\beta^{-1})(l) - l + p\{(t_\alpha^p t_{\alpha'} t_\beta^{-1})(l') - l'\} \\ &= p([\alpha] + [\alpha'] + [\beta]) + [\beta] = [\beta] = [S_1]. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, $j_\varphi((p+1)(e_3 - e_4) - e_1) = 0$, so that

$$m(\varphi) = [p+1 : -1].$$

By Proposition 2.5, we have

$$m(\varphi^{-q}) = -q[p+1 : -1] = \begin{cases} [p+1 : q], & \text{if } p \neq -1 \\ [0 : 1], & \text{if } p = -1. \end{cases} \quad (q \in \mathbf{Z})$$

Since p and q can run over all integers, we see m is surjective for $g \geq 1$.

For $g = 0$, $\mathcal{M}_{0,2}$ is the infinite cyclic group generated by t_β . Since $m(t_\beta^{-q}) = [1 : q]$, we have $\text{Im}(m) = [1 : \mathbf{Z}]$. \square

2 The difference of two Meyer cocycles $\eta^*\tau_{g+1}$ and $\theta^*\tau_g$

In this section (co)homology groups are with \mathbf{Z} coefficient unless specified.

Let $g \geq 0$ be a positive integer. In Introduction, we defined the homomorphisms $\eta : \mathcal{M}_{g,2} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_{g+1,0}$ and $\theta : \mathcal{M}_{g,2} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_g$ to be the induced maps by sewing a pair of disks and by sewing an annulus onto the surface $\Sigma_{g,2}$ along their boundaries respectively. We denote the Meyer cocycle on the mapping class group of genus g closed orientable surface \mathcal{M}_g by $\tau_g \in Z^2(\mathcal{M}_g)$ and define $\tilde{\tau}_g \in Z^2(\mathcal{M}_{g,2})$ to be the difference between the Meyer cocycles

$$\tilde{\tau}_g := \eta^*\tau_{g+1} - \theta^*\tau_g.$$

Let $P := S^2 - \Pi_{i=1}^3 D^2$. In this section, we prove the main theorem and calculate the changes of signature associated with sewing a pair of trivial disk bundles $P \times \Pi_{i=1}^2 D^2$ and sewing an trivial annulus bundles $P \times (S^1 \times I)$ onto $\Sigma_{g,2}$ bundle on the pair of pants P along their boundaries. To state the main theorem, we define the sign of $[p : q] \in \mathbf{QP}^1$ by

$$\text{sign}([p : q]) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } pq > 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } pq = 0, \\ -1 & \text{if } pq < 0. \end{cases}$$

Theorem 2.1. *For $\varphi, \psi \in \mathcal{M}_{g,2}$, we define*

$$\tilde{\phi}_g(\varphi) := \text{sign}(m(\varphi)).$$

Then $\tilde{\phi}_g$ cobounds the difference $\tilde{\tau}_g$ between the Meyer cocycles η^τ_{g+1} and $\theta^*\tau_g$*

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\tau}_g(\varphi, \psi) &= \delta \tilde{\phi}_g(\varphi, \psi) \\ &= \text{sign}(m(\varphi)) + \text{sign}(m(\psi)) + \text{sign}(m((\varphi\psi)^{-1})). \end{aligned}$$

Remark 2.2. *Let k be an integer. By Lemma 2.2 and Proposition 2.5, $\tilde{\phi}_g$ has the properties*

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\phi}_g(\psi\varphi\psi^{-1}) &= \tilde{\phi}_g(\varphi), \text{ and} \\ \tilde{\phi}_g(\varphi^k) &= \text{sign}(k)\tilde{\phi}_g(\varphi) \end{aligned}$$

for any $g \geq 0$.

2.1 Proof of Main Theorem

In this subsection we prove Theorem 2.1.

In Introduction, we defined $E_{g,r}^{\varphi,\psi}$ as a $\Sigma_{g,r}$ bundle on the pair of pants P which has monodromies φ, ψ , and $(\psi\varphi)^{-1} \in \mathcal{M}_{g,r}$ along α, β , and $\gamma \in \pi_1(P)$ respectively, and in Subsection 2.1, we defined $X_{g,r}^\varphi$ by the mapping torus of $\Sigma_{g,r} \times I / \sim$ where $(x, 1) \sim (h(x), 0)$ for $\varphi = [h] \in \mathcal{M}_{g,r}$.

We consider

$$E_{g+1}^{\eta(\varphi), \eta(\psi)} = E_{g,2}^{\varphi,\psi} \cup (-S^1 \times I \times P),$$

and

$$X_{g+1}^{\eta(\varphi)} = X_{g,2}^\varphi \cup (-S^1 \times I \times S^1).$$

Define

$$\begin{aligned} G : \partial D^2 \times I &\rightarrow \{1\} \times S^1 \times I. \\ (x, t) &\mapsto (1, x, \frac{1+t}{3}) \end{aligned}$$

By the map G , we can glue $D^2 \times I$ to $I \times S^1 \times I$ as shown in figure 3. Glue $D^2 \times I \times P$ to $I \times E_{g+1}^{\eta(\varphi), \eta(\psi)} =$

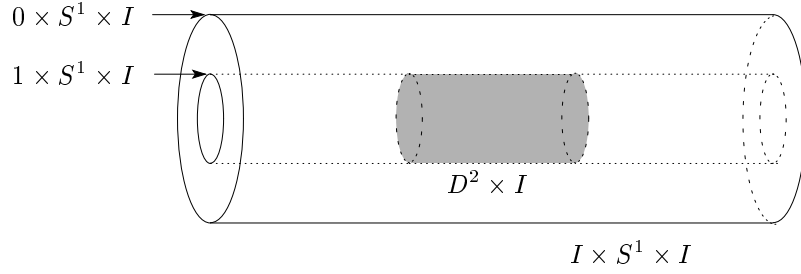


Figure 3: Gluing map G

$(I \times E_{g,2}^{\varphi, \psi}) \cup (-I \times S^1 \times I \times P)$ with the gluing map $G \times id_P : \partial D^2 \times I \times P \rightarrow \{1\} \times S^1 \times I \times P$. In the same way, glue $D^2 \times I \times S^1$ to $I \times X_{g+1}^{\eta(\varphi)} = (I \times X_{g,2}^\varphi) \cup (-I \times S^1 \times I \times S^1)$ with the gluing map $G \times id_{S^1} : \partial D^2 \times I \times S^1 \rightarrow \{1\} \times S^1 \times I \times S^1$. Denote

$$\tilde{E}^{\varphi, \psi} := (I \times E_{g+1}^{\eta(\varphi), \eta(\psi)}) \cup (D^2 \times I \times P), \text{ and } \tilde{X}^\varphi := (I \times X_{g+1}^{\eta(\varphi)}) \cup (D^2 \times I \times S^1).$$

To prove main theorem, it suffices to prove Lemma 2.3 and Lemma 2.4 below.

Lemma 2.3.

$$(\eta^* \tau_{g+1} - \theta^* \tau_g)(\varphi, \psi) = \text{Sign } \tilde{X}^\varphi + \text{Sign } \tilde{X}^\psi + \text{Sign } \tilde{X}^{(\varphi\psi)^{-1}} \text{ for } \varphi, \psi \in \mathcal{M}_{g,2}, g \geq 0.$$

Lemma 2.4.

$$\text{Sign } \tilde{X}^\varphi = \text{sign}(m(\varphi)) \text{ for } \varphi \in \mathcal{M}_{g,2}, g \geq 0.$$

proof of Lemma 3.3. Note that

$$X^\varphi = \tilde{E}^{\varphi, \psi}|_{\partial D_1}.$$

Then we can see

$$\begin{aligned} \partial \tilde{E}^{\varphi, \psi} &= (\tilde{E}^{\varphi, \psi}|_{\partial D_1} \cup \tilde{E}^{\varphi, \psi}|_{\partial D_2} \cup \tilde{E}^{\varphi, \psi}|_{\partial D_3}) \cup E_g^{\theta(\varphi), \theta(\psi)} \cup -E_{g+1}^{\eta(\varphi), \eta(\psi)} \\ &= (\tilde{X}^\varphi \cup \tilde{X}^\psi \cup \tilde{X}^{(\psi\varphi)^{-1}}) \cup E_g^{\theta(\varphi), \theta(\psi)} \cup -E_{g+1}^{\eta(\varphi), \eta(\psi)}. \end{aligned}$$

By Novikov Additivity, the fact $\text{Sign } \partial \tilde{E}^{\varphi, \psi} = 0$ implies

$$\text{Sign}(E_{g+1}^{\eta(\varphi), \eta(\psi)}) - \text{Sign}(E_g^{\theta(\varphi), \theta(\psi)}) = \text{Sign } \tilde{X}^\varphi + \text{Sign } \tilde{X}^\psi + \text{Sign } \tilde{X}^{(\psi\varphi)^{-1}}.$$

Notice that $\tilde{X}^{(\psi\varphi)^{-1}}$ is diffeomorphic to $\tilde{X}^{(\varphi\psi)^{-1}}$, so that $\text{Sign } \tilde{X}^{(\psi\varphi)^{-1}} = \text{Sign } \tilde{X}^{(\varphi\psi)^{-1}}$. By the definition of the Meyer cocycle, we have

$$\text{Sign}(E_{g+1}^{\eta(\varphi), \eta(\psi)}) = \eta^* \tau_{g+1}(\varphi, \psi), \text{ and } \text{Sign}(E_g^{\theta(\varphi), \theta(\psi)}) = \theta^* \tau_g(\varphi, \psi).$$

Define $\tilde{\phi}(\varphi) = \text{Sign}(\tilde{X}^\varphi)$, then we have $\delta \tilde{\phi} = \eta^* \tau_{g+1} - \theta^* \tau_g$. We get the cobounding function $\tilde{\phi}$. \square

proof of Lemma 3.4. Write simply $X := X_{g+1}^{\eta(\varphi)}$, $X' := X_{g,2}^\varphi$, and $Y := \tilde{X}^\varphi = (I \times X) \cup (D^2 \times I \times S^1)$.

For $i = 0, 1$, define

$$\begin{aligned} j_i : X &\rightarrow I \times X \hookrightarrow Y, \\ x &\mapsto (i, x) \end{aligned}$$

where $I \times X \hookrightarrow Y$ is a natural embedding. We will prove there is a exact sequence

$$H_2(X') \xrightarrow{j_{0*}=j_{1*}} H_2(Y) \longrightarrow \text{Ker}(H_1(\partial X') \rightarrow H_1(X')) \longrightarrow 0.$$

Define $Y_1 := I \times X'$ and $Y_2 := (I \times S^1 \times I \times S^1) \cup (D^2 \times I \times S^1) \subset Y$, then

$$Y_1 \simeq X', Y_2 \simeq S^1, Y_1 \cap Y_2 \simeq \partial X' = (S_1 \amalg S_2) \times S^1.$$

By the Mayer-Vietoris exact sequence, we have

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} H_2(Y_1) \oplus H_2(Y_2) & \rightarrow & H_2(Y) & \rightarrow & H_1(Y_1 \cap Y_2) & \rightarrow & H_1(Y_1) \oplus H_1(Y_2) \quad (\text{exact}). \\ \wr & & & & \wr & & \wr \\ H_2(X') \oplus 0 & & & & H_1(\partial X') & & H_1(X') \oplus H_1(S^1) \end{array}$$

Denote the map $H_1(\partial X') \rightarrow H_1(X') \oplus H_1(S^1)$ in the above diagram by h . the projection $H_1(\partial X') \rightarrow H_1(S^1)$ to the second entry of h is the composite of inclusion homomorphism $H_1(\partial X') \rightarrow H_1(X')$ and $\pi_* : H_1(X') \rightarrow H_1(S^1)$. Therefore,

$$\text{Ker}(H_1(\partial X') \rightarrow H_1(X') \oplus H_1(S^1)) = \text{Ker}(H_1(\partial X') \rightarrow H_1(X')).$$

So the sequence is exact.

Next we construct the splitting $H_2(Y; \mathbf{Q}) = j_{i*} H_2(X'; \mathbf{Q}) \oplus \text{Ker}(H_1(\partial X'; \mathbf{Q}) \rightarrow H_1(X'; \mathbf{Q}))$. Note that there exist $p, q \in \mathbf{Q}$ such that

$$\text{Ker}(H_1(\partial X'; \mathbf{Q}) \rightarrow H_1(X'; \mathbf{Q})) = \mathbf{Q}(e_1 + e_2) \oplus \mathbf{Q}\{p(e_3 - e_4) + qe_1\}$$

as in section 1. To construct the splitting, we choose elements of inverse images of $e_1 + e_2$, $p(e_3 - e_4) + qe_1$ under $H_2(Y) \rightarrow H_1(\partial X')$. Define $\iota_Y : \Sigma_{g+1} \rightarrow Y$ by

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_{g+1} &\rightarrow X \rightarrow I \times X \hookrightarrow Y, \\ x &\mapsto (x, 0) \mapsto (0, x, 0) \end{aligned}$$

then we have

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} H_2(\tilde{X}) & \rightarrow & H_1(Y_1 \cap Y_2) & \rightarrow & H_1(\partial X'), \\ \iota_{Y*}[\Sigma_g] & \mapsto & \partial_* \iota_{Y*}[\Sigma_g] & \rightarrow & e_1 + e_2 \end{array}$$

so we choose $\iota_{Y*}[\Sigma_g]$ as an element of the inverse image of $e_1 + e_2$.

Next, we choose an element of the inverse image of $p(e_3 - e_4) + qe_1$. Since $p(e_3 - e_4) + qe_1 \in \text{Ker}(H_1(\partial X'; \mathbf{Q}) \rightarrow H_1(X'; \mathbf{Q}))$, there exists a singular 2-cochain $s \in C_2(X'; \mathbf{Q})$ such that

$$\partial s = p(f_3 - f_4) + qf_1 \in B_1(X'; \mathbf{Q}).$$

For $i = 0, 1$, define $s'_{0i} : I \times S^1 \rightarrow I \times S^1 \times I \times S^1 \hookrightarrow Y_2$ by $s'_{0i}(s, t) = (i, 0, s, t)$. then

$$[\partial s'_{0i}] = [j_i f_3 - j_i f_4] \in H_1(Y_1 \cap Y_2; \mathbf{Q}).$$

Define $s'_{1i} : D^2 \rightarrow (-I \times S^1 \times I \times S^1) \cup (D^2 \times I \times S^1) \subset Y$ as shown in Figure 4 by

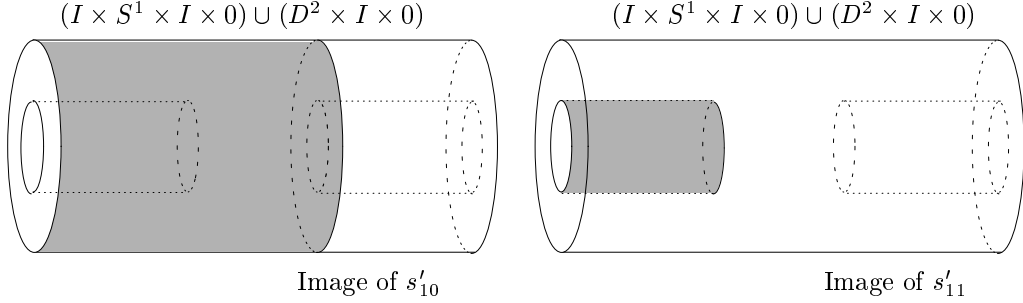


Figure 4: Images of s'_{10} and $s'_{11} \subset (I \times S^1 \times I \times 0) \cup (D^2 \times I \times 0) \subset Y$

$$\begin{aligned} s'_{10}(x) &= \begin{cases} (6x, 1, 0) & \in D^2 \times I \times S^1 & (||x|| \leq \frac{1}{6}), \\ (2 - 6||x||, \frac{x}{||x||}, \frac{2}{3}, 0) & \in I \times S^1 \times I \times S^1 & (\frac{1}{6} \leq ||x|| \leq \frac{1}{3}), \\ (0, 1 - ||x||, \frac{x}{||x||}, 0) & \in I \times S^1 \times I \times S^1 & (\frac{1}{3} \leq ||x|| \leq 1), \end{cases} \\ s'_{11}(x, t) &= \begin{cases} (\frac{3}{2}x, 0, 0) & \in D^2 \times I \times S^1 & (||x|| \leq \frac{2}{3}), \\ (1, \frac{x}{||x||}, 1 - ||x||, 0) & \in I \times S^1 \times I \times S^1 & (\frac{2}{3} \leq ||x|| \leq 1). \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Then, we have $[\partial s'_{1i}] = [j_i f_1] \in H_1(Y_1 \cap Y_2; \mathbf{Q})$.

Define $s'_i = ps'_{0i} + qs'_{1i}$, then it follows that

$$[\partial s'_i] = [j_i(p(f_3 - f_4) + qf_1)] \in H_1(Y_1 \cap Y_2; \mathbf{Q}),$$

so that we have $[\partial(j_i s - s'_i)] = 0 \in H_1(Y_1 \cap Y_2; \mathbf{Q})$.

We see

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} H_2(Y; \mathbf{Q}) & \rightarrow & H_1(Y_1 \cap Y_2; \mathbf{Q}) & \rightarrow & H_1(\partial X'; \mathbf{Q}), \\ [j_i s - s'_i] & \mapsto & \partial_* [j_i s - s'_i] & \mapsto & p(e_3 - e_4) + qe_1 \end{array}$$

so that we can choose $[j_i s - s'_i]$ as an element of the inverse image of $p(e_3 - e_4) + qe_1$.

Now we calculate the intersection form of $H_2(Y; \mathbf{Q})$. Define $X''_1 = j_1(X) \cup (D^2 \times 0 \times S^1) \subset (I \times X) \cup (D^2 \times I \times S^1) \subset Y$, then X''_1 is deformation retract of Y . Hence, every element of $H_2(Y; \mathbf{Q})$ is represented by a cocycle in X''_1 . Therefore, a cohomology class is included in the annihilator of intersection form in $H_2(Y; \mathbf{Q})$ if it is represented by a cocycle which have no common point with X''_1 . We see

$$j_0(X') \cap X''_1 = \emptyset, \text{ and } \iota_Y(\Sigma_{g+1}) \cap X''_1 = \emptyset,$$

so that $\mathbf{Q}(e_1 + e_2)$ and $j_{0*}H_2(X'; \mathbf{Q})$ are included in the annihilator of intersection form in $H_2(Y; \mathbf{Q})$.

To describe the signature of Y , it suffices to calculate the self-intersection number of $[j_i s - s'_i] = p(e_3 - e_4) + qe_1$. The cocycle $j_i s - s'_i$ satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Im}(j_0 s) \cap (\text{Im}(j_1 s) \cup \text{Im}(s'_{01}) \cup \text{Im}(s'_{11})) &= \emptyset \\ \text{Im}(s'_{00}) \cap (\text{Im}(j_1 s) \cup \text{Im}(s'_{01})) &= \emptyset \\ \text{Im}(s'_{10}) \cap (\text{Im}(j_1 s) \cup \text{Im}(s'_{01}) \cup \text{Im}(s'_{11})) &= \emptyset, \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} (j_0 s - s'_0) \cdot (j_1 s - s'_1) &= (j_0 s - (ps'_{00} + qs'_{10})) \cdot (j_1 s - (ps'_{01} + qs'_{11})) \\ &= ps'_{00} \cdot qs'_{11}. \end{aligned}$$

We can see s'_{00} and s'_{11} intersect only once positively. Hence, $\text{Sign}(Y) = \text{Sign}(pq) = \text{Sign}(m(\varphi))$. \square

2.2 Wall's Non-additivity Formula

Wall derives the Novikov additivity for a more general case: two compact oriented smooth $4k$ -manifolds are glued along a common submanifolds, which itself have boundary, of the boundaries of the original manifolds.

We will give the specific case of his formula for $k = 1$:

Let Z be a closed oriented smooth 2-manifold, X_- , X_0 , X_+ compact oriented smooth 3-manifolds with the boundaries $\partial X_- = \partial X_0 = \partial X_+ = Z$, and Y_- , Y_+ compact oriented smooth 4-manifolds with the boundaries $\partial Y_- = X_- \cup_Z (-X_0)$, $\partial Y_+ = X_0 \cup_Z (-X_+)$. Here we denote by $M \cup_B (-N)$ the union of two manifolds M and N glued by orientation reversing diffeomorphism of their common boundaries $\partial M = \partial N = B$. Let $Y = Y_- \cup_{X_0} Y_+$ be the union of Y_- and Y_+ glued along submanifolds X_0 of their boundaries. Suppose Y is oriented by the induced orientation of Y_- and Y_+ .

Write $V = H_1(Z; \mathbf{R})$; let A , B , and C be the kernels of the maps on first homology induce by the inclusions of Z in X_- , X_0 and X_+ respectively.

We define

$$W := \frac{B \cap (C + A)}{(B \cap C) + (B \cap A)},$$

and a bilinear form Ψ by

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi : \quad W \quad \times \quad W \quad &\rightarrow \quad \mathbf{R}. \\ (b \quad , \quad b') \quad &\mapsto \quad b \cdot c' \end{aligned}$$

Here c' is a element which satisfies $a' + b' + c' = 0$, and $b \cdot c'$ denote the intersection product of b and c' .

Then Ψ is independent of c' and well-defined on W . Denote the signature of the bilinear form Ψ by $\text{Sign}(V; BCA)$ and the signature of the compact oriented 4-manifold M by $\text{Sign } M$. We are now ready to state the formula.

Theorem 2.5 (Wall[12]). $\text{Sign } Y = \text{Sign } Y_- + \text{Sign } Y_+ - \text{Sign}(V; BCA)$.

2.3 The differences of signature $\text{Sign } E_g - \text{Sign } E_{g,2}$ and $\text{Sign } E_{g+1} - \text{Sign } E_{g,2}$

In this subsection, we calculate the difference of signature associated with sewing the trivial Disk bundles onto the $\Sigma_{g,2}$ bundle.

In Introduction, we defined $E_{g,r}^{\varphi,\psi}$ as a oriented $\Sigma_{g,r}$ bundle on P which has monodromies $\varphi, \psi, (\psi\varphi)^{-1} \in \mathcal{M}_{g,r}$ along $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \pi_1(P)$. If we fix $\varphi, \psi \in \mathcal{M}_{g,2}$, we denote simply

$$E_{g,2} := E_{g,2}^{\varphi,\psi}, \quad E_g := E_g^{\theta(\varphi),\theta(\psi)}, \quad \text{and} \quad E_{g+1} := E_{g+1}^{\eta(\varphi),\eta(\psi)} \quad (g \geq 0).$$

Proposition 2.6. $\text{Sign}(E_g) - \text{Sign}(E_{g,2}) = -\text{Sign}(m(\varphi) + m(\psi) + m((\varphi\psi)^{-1})) \quad (g \geq 0)$

Proof. E_g is the union of $E_{g,2}$ and $E_D := (D^2 \amalg D^2) \times P$ glued along their boundaries. Using Non-additivity formula Theorem 2.5, we calculate $\text{Sign}(E_g) - \text{Sign}(E_{g,2})$.

Define Y_-, Y_+, X_-, X_0, X_+ , and Z by

$$\begin{aligned} Y_- &:= (\amalg_{j=1}^2 D^2) \times P, \quad Y_+ := E_{g,2}, \\ X_- &:= (\amalg_{j=1}^2 D^2) \times \partial P, \quad X_+ := E_{g,2}|_{\partial P}, \quad X_0 := (\amalg_{j=1}^2 \partial D^2) \times P, \\ &\text{and } Z := (\amalg_{j=1}^2 \partial D^2) \times \partial P, \quad \text{respectively.} \end{aligned}$$

Here, by the notation stated in subsection 1.1,

$$X_+ = E_{g,2}|_{\partial P} \cong X^\varphi \amalg X^\psi \amalg X^{(\psi\varphi)^{-1}}, \quad Z \cong \partial X^\varphi \amalg \partial X^\psi \amalg \partial X^{(\psi\varphi)^{-1}}.$$

Define V, A, B , and C as stated in subsection 3.1.

Since $X^\varphi = X^\psi = X^{(\psi\varphi)^{-1}} = S^1 \times S^1$, we can choose the base of $H_1(\partial X^\varphi; \mathbf{R})$, $H_1(\partial X^\psi; \mathbf{R})$, and $H_1(\partial X^{(\psi\varphi)^{-1}}; \mathbf{R})$ as in section 1.1. Denote their base by $\{e_{11}, e_{12}, e_{13}, e_{14}\}$, $\{e_{21}, e_{22}, e_{23}, e_{24}\}$, $\{e_{31}, e_{32}, e_{33}, e_{34}\}$ respectively.

Since $Z = \partial X^\varphi \amalg \partial X^\psi \amalg \partial X^{(\psi\varphi)^{-1}}$, we think of e_{ij} as an element of $H_1(Z; \mathbf{R})$.

Denote $m(\varphi) = [a_1 : b_1]$, $m(\psi) = [a_2 : b_2]$, and $m((\psi\varphi)^{-1}) = [a_3 : b_3]$ respectively, then

$$\begin{aligned}
V &= H_1(Z, \mathbf{R}) = \bigoplus_{i=1}^3 \bigoplus_{j=1}^4 \mathbf{R}e_{ij}, \\
A &= \mathbf{R}e_{11} \oplus \mathbf{R}e_{21} \oplus \mathbf{R}e_{31} \oplus \mathbf{R}e_{12} \oplus \mathbf{R}e_{22} \oplus \mathbf{R}e_{32}, \\
B &= \mathbf{R}(e_{11} - e_{21}) \oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{11} - e_{31}) \oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{12} - e_{22}) \oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{12} - e_{32}) \\
&\quad \oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{13} + e_{23} + e_{33}) \oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{14} + e_{24} + e_{34}), \\
C &= \bigoplus_{i=1}^3 \begin{cases} \mathbf{R}(e_{i1} + e_{i2}) \oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{i3} - e_{i4} + m_i e_{i1}) & \text{if } a_i \neq 0 \\ \mathbf{R}e_{i1} \oplus \mathbf{R}e_{i2} & \text{if } a_i = 0. \end{cases} \quad \text{Here we denote } m_i := \frac{b_i}{a_i}.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned}
B \cap A &= \mathbf{R}(e_{11} - e_{21}) \oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{12} - e_{22}) \oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{11} - e_{31}) \oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{12} - e_{32}), \\
B \cap C &= \begin{cases} \begin{aligned} &\mathbf{R}(e_{11} - e_{21} + e_{12} - e_{22}) \\ &\oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{11} - e_{31} + e_{12} - e_{32}) \\ &\oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{13} + e_{23} + e_{33} - e_{14} - e_{24} - e_{34} + m_1 e_{11} + m_2 e_{21} + m_3 e_{31}) \end{aligned} & \begin{aligned} &\text{if } a_i \neq 0 \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, 3 \\ &\text{and } m_1 + m_2 + m_3 = 0, \end{aligned} \\ \begin{aligned} &\mathbf{R}(e_{11} - e_{21} + e_{12} - e_{22}) \\ &\oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{11} - e_{31} + e_{12} - e_{32}) \end{aligned} & \begin{aligned} &\text{if } a_i \neq 0 \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, 3 \\ &\text{and } m_1 + m_2 + m_3 \neq 0, \end{aligned} \\ \begin{aligned} &\mathbf{R}(e_{11} - e_{21} + e_{12} - e_{22}) \\ &\oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{11} - e_{31} + e_{12} - e_{32}) \end{aligned} & \text{if } a_1 = 0, a_2 \neq 0, a_3 \neq 0, \\ \begin{aligned} &\mathbf{R}(e_{11} - e_{21}) \oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{12} - e_{22}) \\ &\oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{11} - e_{31} + e_{12} - e_{32}) \end{aligned} & \text{if } a_1 = a_2 = 0, a_3 \neq 0, \\ \begin{aligned} &\mathbf{R}(e_{11} - e_{21}) \oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{12} - e_{22}) \\ &\oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{11} - e_{31}) \oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{12} - e_{32}) \end{aligned} & \text{if } a_i = 0 \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, 3, \end{cases} \\
B \cap (C + A) &= \begin{cases} \begin{aligned} &\mathbf{R}(e_{11} - e_{21}) \oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{12} - e_{22}) \\ &\oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{11} - e_{31}) \oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{12} - e_{32}) \\ &\oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{13} + e_{23} + e_{33} - e_{14} - e_{24} - e_{34}) \end{aligned} & \text{if } a_i \neq 0 \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, 3, \\ \begin{aligned} &\mathbf{R}(e_{11} - e_{21}) \oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{12} - e_{22}) \\ &\oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{11} - e_{31}) \oplus \mathbf{R}(e_{12} - e_{32}), \end{aligned} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

By computing the signature of Ψ , we have

$$\text{Sign}(V; BCA) = \begin{cases} \text{Sign}(m_1 + m_2 + m_3) & \text{if } a_i \neq 0 \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, 3, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Sign}(V; BCA) &= \text{Sign}(m(\varphi) + m(\psi) + m((\psi\varphi)^{-1})) \\
&= \text{Sign}(m(\varphi) + m(\psi) + m((\varphi\psi)^{-1})).
\end{aligned}$$

By Non-additivity formula, we have

$$\text{Sign}(E_g) = \text{Sign}(E_D) + \text{Sign}(E_{g,2}) - \text{Sign}(V; BCA).$$

Since E_D is a trivial bundle $(D^2 \amalg D^2) \times P$, we have $\text{Sign}(E_D) = 0$.

This completes the proof of the proposition. \square

By the theorem and Proposition 2.6, we can calculate the difference of signature $\text{Sign}(E_g) - \text{Sign}(E_{g,2})$.

Corollary 2.7. *For $g \geq 0$,*

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Sign}(E_{g+1}) - \text{Sign}(E_{g,2}) &= \text{Sign}(m(a)) + \text{Sign}(m(b)) + \text{Sign}(m((ab)^{-1})) \\ &\quad - \text{Sign}(m(a) + m(b) + m((ab)^{-1})). \end{aligned}$$

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